GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:81
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2001
TERRORIST ORGANISATIONS JOINING HANDS WITH LASHKAR-E-TOIBA
SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item regarding eight terrorist organisations joining hands with the Lashkar-e-Toiba appearing in the `Rashtriya Sahara` dated January 3, 2001;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to tackle the situation emerging from these extremist organisations getting together ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)to(c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.81 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 27.2.2001

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The news itme is based on the assumption that Ashfaq Ahmed arrested recently by Delhi Police in Red Fort shoot out case and Kamran arrested earlier in the year 1998 had in the course of interrogation disclosed that eight terrorist outfits named in the news item have joined hands with Lashkar-e-Toiba. This is factually incorrect as no such disclosure was made in the course of interrogation of the two arrested militants.

(c): In discharge of its duty to protect the States inter alia against internal disturbance and in the interest of national security, the Central Government keeps sensitising the State Governments, based on the available intelligence inputs, about the plans and activities of various militant outfits active in the country. Efforts are also made, on a continuing basis, to improve the level of cooperation as well as flow of information between the Central Intelligence Agencies and the State Intelligence/Special Branches. Besides regular interactions between the concerned Central and State authorities to exchange information and hone strategies for countering militant activities and cross-border terrorism, the State Governments are kept advised, from time to time, about the need to beef up security and to keep special watch over criminal and anti-national elements as well as their patrons.